Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1-16. (canceled)

- 17. (currently amended) A method of treating or preventing an immune response-associated disorder, said method comprising administering, to a subject, in which such treatment or prevention is desired, an effective amount of a therapeutic selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) <u>a nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:6</u> the nucleic acid of claim 1;
 - (b) the polypeptide of <u>SEQ ID NO:6 claim 10</u>; and
- (c) an [[the]] antibody that specifically binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:6-of claim-12.

18-25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A method of treating a pathological state in a mammal, the method comprising administering to a subject, [[the]] an antibody that specifically binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:6 of claim 12 in an amount sufficient to alleviate the pathological state.